

Center for  
Electronic Correlations and Magnetism  
University of Augsburg

Theory of correlated fermionic condensed matter

**1. Correlated electrons made simple**

**b. Introduction to dynamical mean-field theory (DMFT)**

XIV. Training Course in the Physics of Strongly Correlated Systems  
Salerno, October 5, 2009

**Dieter Vollhardt**

*Supported by Deutsche Forschungsgemeinschaft through SFB 484*

# Outline:

- Construction of mean-field theories
- Dynamical mean-field theory (DMFT) for correlated electrons: General concepts

# What is a “mean-field theory (MFT)” ?

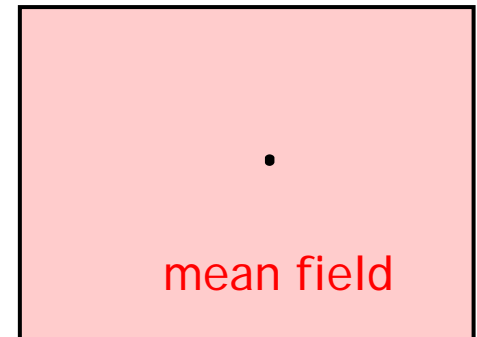
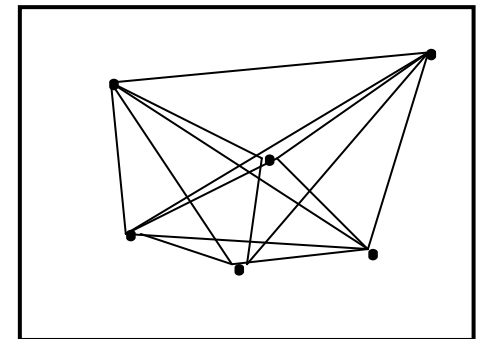
In general: construction by **factorization**

$$\langle AB \rangle \rightarrow \langle A \rangle \langle B \rangle$$

e.g., spins:

$$\langle S_i S_j \rangle \rightarrow \langle S_i \rangle \langle S_j \rangle$$

→ Weiss MFT



Construction of mean-field theories:

lattice coordination number  $Z \rightarrow \infty$

or

spatial dimension  $d \rightarrow \infty$

# Interacting spins/particles on a lattice

Hypercubic lattices: Coordination number  $Z=2d$

Dimension  $d=1$

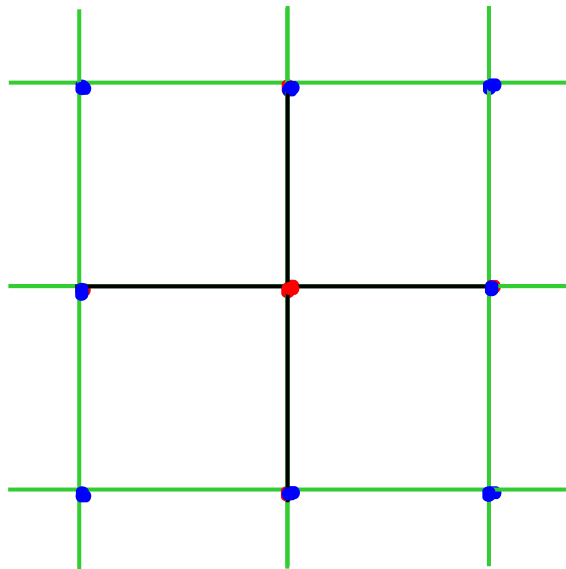


$$Z=2$$

# Interacting spins/particles on a lattice

Hypercubic lattices: Coordination number  $Z=2d$

Dimension  $d=2$

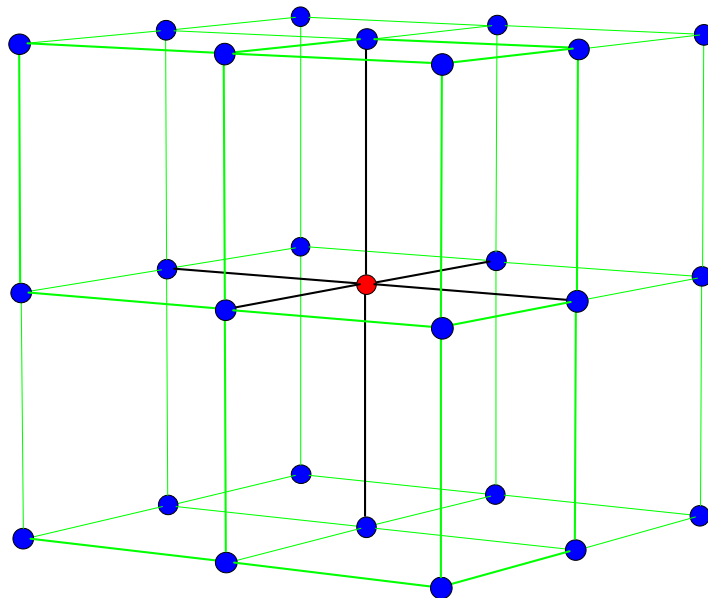


$Z=4$

# Interacting spins/particles on a lattice

Hypercubic lattices: Coordination number  $Z=2d$

Dimension  $d=3$

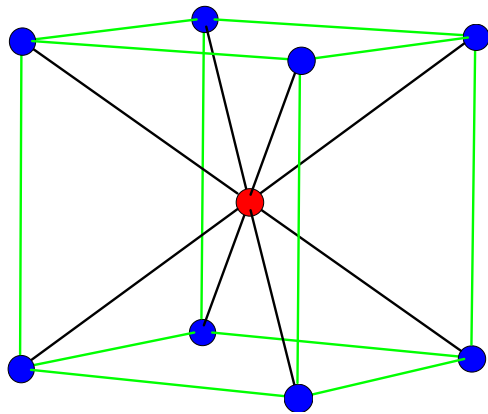


$Z=6$

# Interacting spins/particles on a lattice

## Body-centered cubic lattice

Dimension  $d=3$



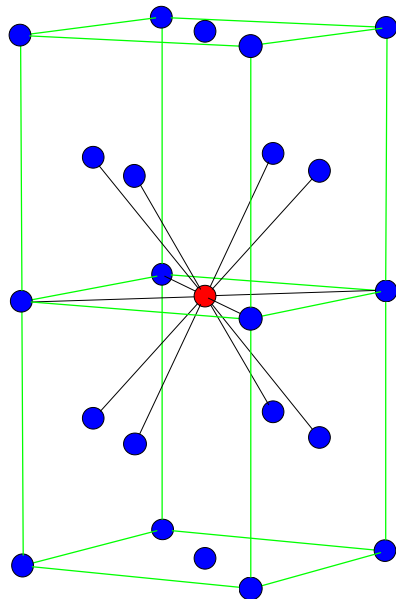
$$Z=8$$



# Interacting spins/particles on a lattice

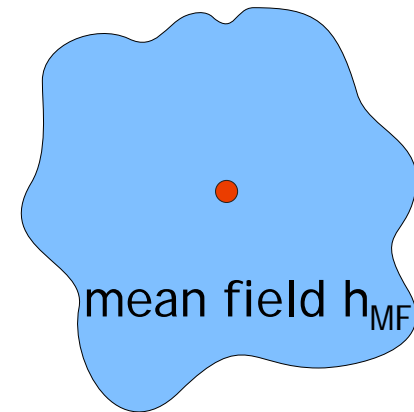
## Face-centered cubic lattice

Dimension  $d=3$



$Z=12$

$Z$  or  $d \rightarrow \infty$



Local (single-site) mean-field theory

## Example: Ising model

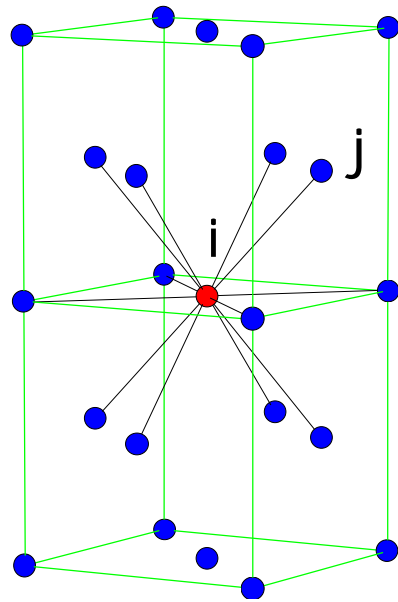
$$H = J \sum_{\langle i,j \rangle} S_i S_j$$

Simplest spin model

Exact sol. in  $d=1,2$

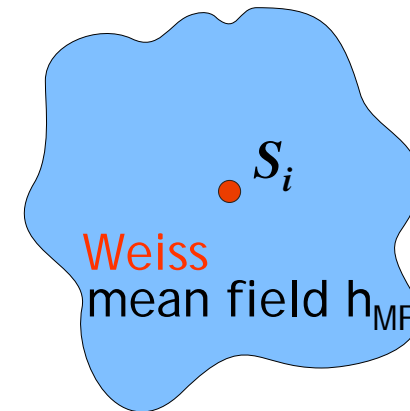
# Best-known mean-field theory (MFT): Weiss MFT for the Ising model

$$H = J \sum_{\langle i,j \rangle} S_i S_j \xrightarrow{Z \text{ or } d \rightarrow \infty} H_{MF} = \underbrace{J^*}_{J^* \langle S \rangle} \sum_i S_i$$



Classical rescaling  $J = \frac{J^*}{Z}$

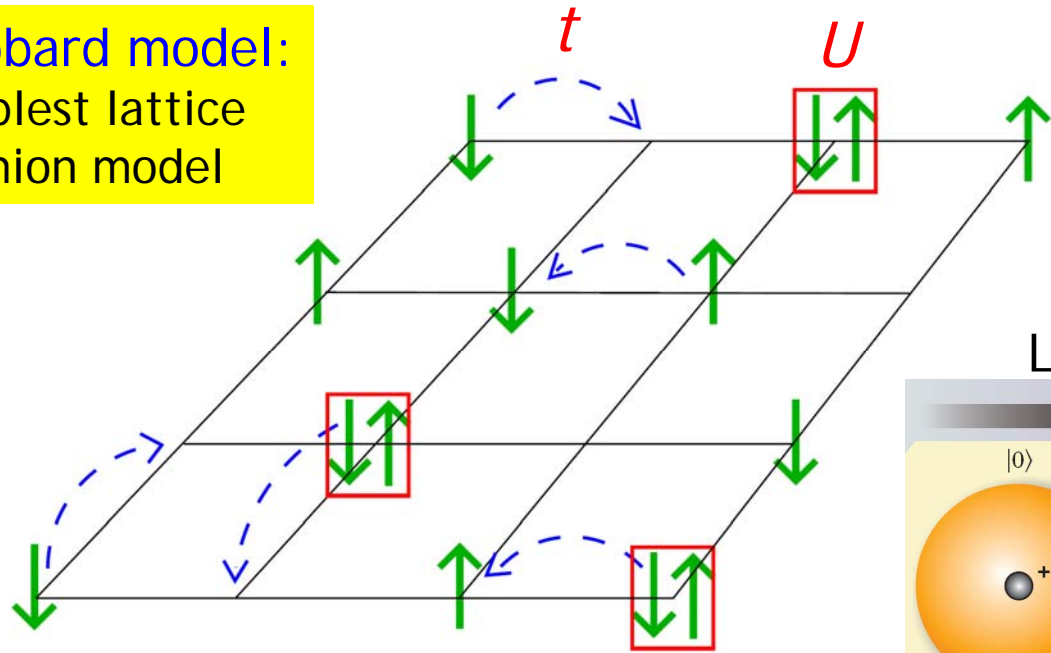
$$\xrightarrow{Z \text{ or } d \rightarrow \infty}$$



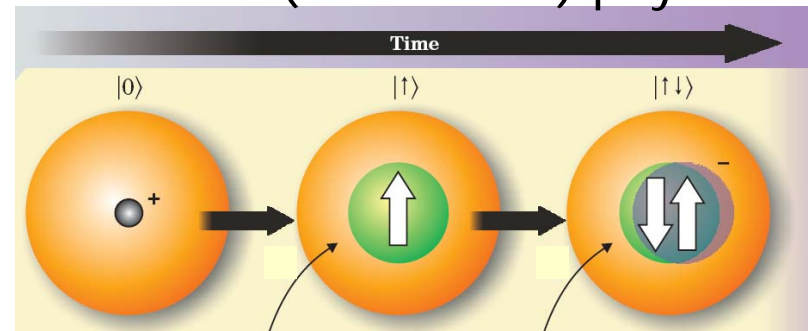
Local (single-site) mean-field theory

Conserving, thermodyn. consistent approximation, free of spurious singularities

Hubbard model:  
Simplest lattice  
fermion model



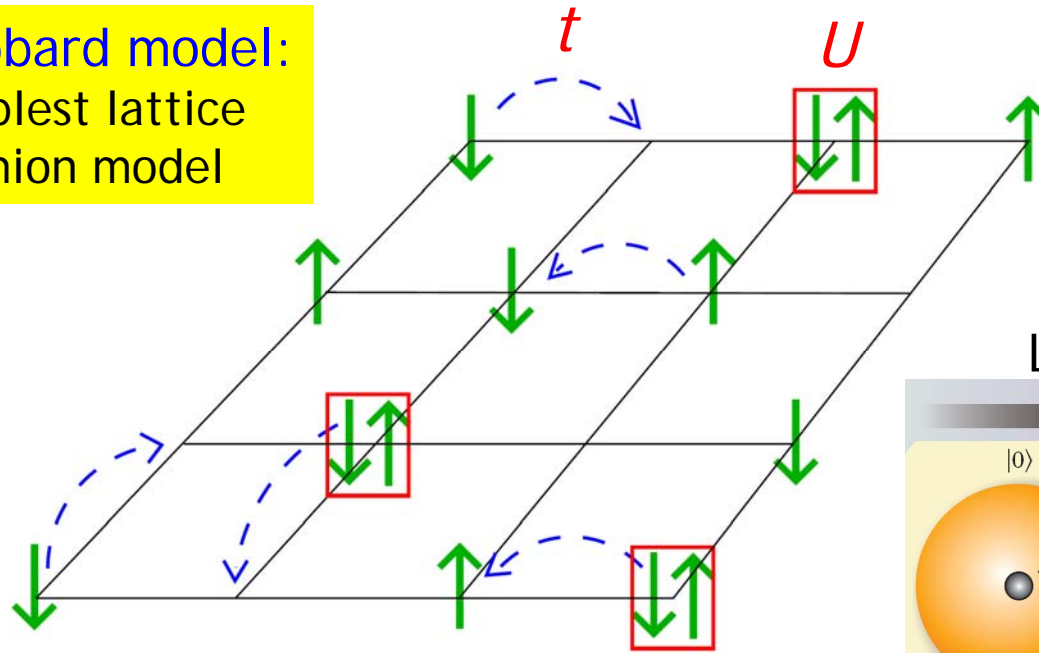
Local ("Hubbard") physics:



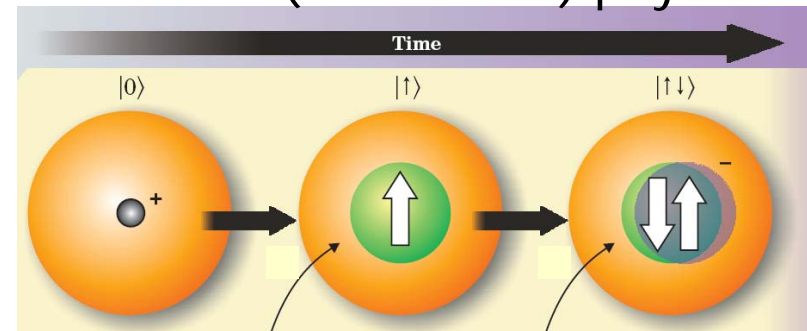
$$H = -t \sum_{\langle i,j \rangle, \sigma} c_{i\sigma}^\dagger c_{j\sigma} + U \sum_i n_{i\uparrow} n_{i\downarrow}$$

Exact sol. in d=1

Hubbard model:  
Simplest lattice  
fermion model



Local ("Hubbard") physics:



$$H = -t \sum_{\langle i,j \rangle, \sigma} c_{i\sigma}^\dagger c_{j\sigma} + U \sum_{\mathbf{i}} n_{i\uparrow} n_{i\downarrow}$$

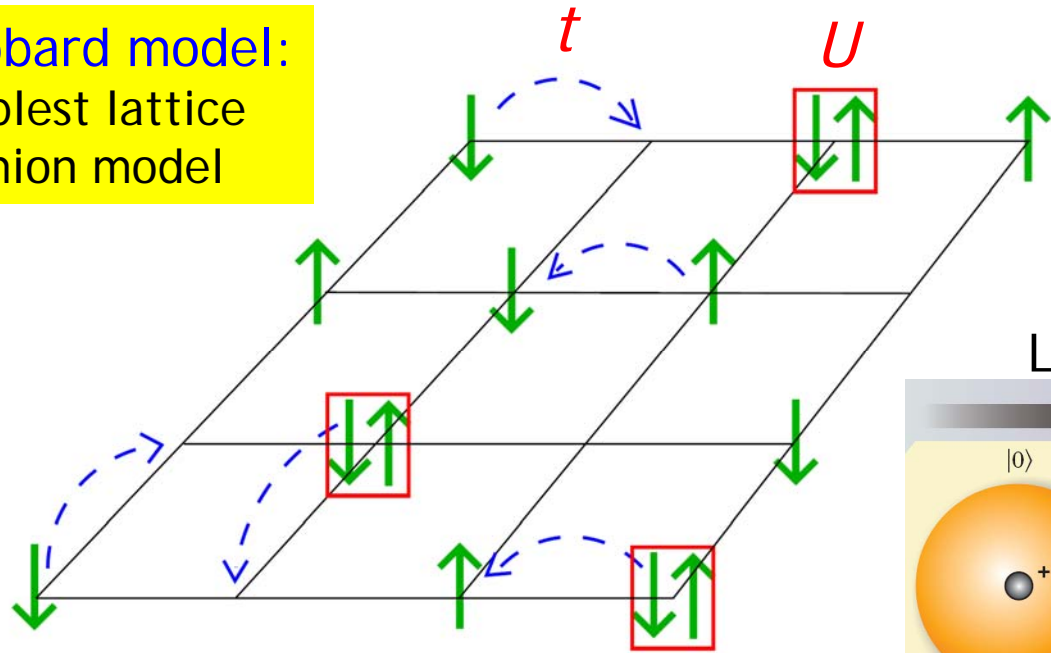
Analogy to Weiss MFT?

→ Hartree-(Fock) approx.

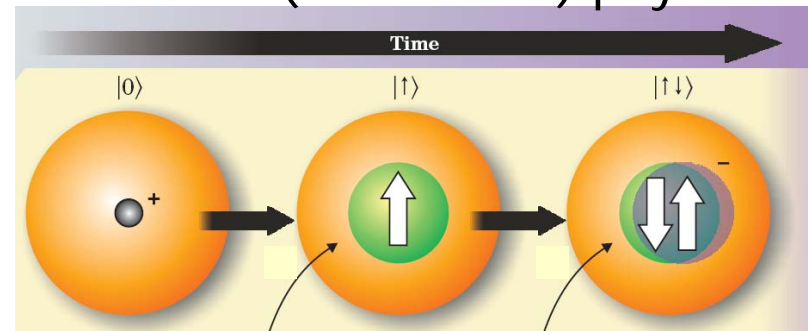
$$\langle n_{i\uparrow} n_{i\downarrow} \rangle \approx \langle n_{i\uparrow} \rangle \langle n_{i\downarrow} \rangle$$

- Derivation of Weiss and Hartree MFTs  
→ black board

Hubbard model:  
Simplest lattice  
fermion model



Local ("Hubbard") physics:



$$H = -t \sum_{\langle i,j \rangle, \sigma} c_{i\sigma}^\dagger c_{j\sigma} + U \sum_i n_{i\uparrow} n_{i\downarrow}$$

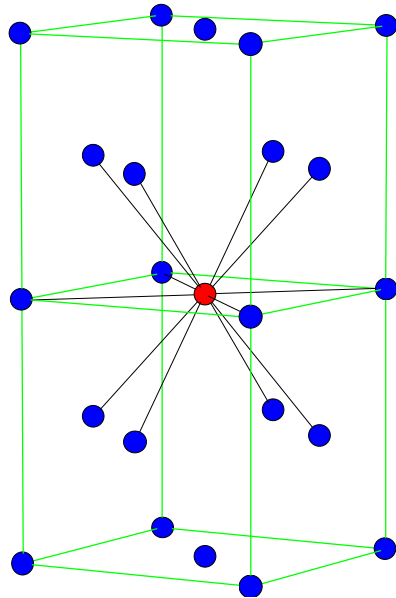
Z → ∞ limit?

# Hubbard model

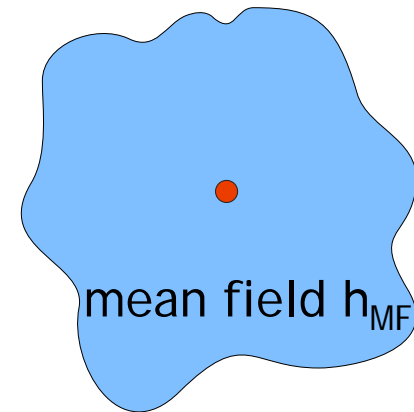
$$H = -t \underbrace{\sum_{\langle i,j \rangle, \sigma} c_{i\sigma}^\dagger c_{j\sigma}}_{\text{non-local}} + U \underbrace{\sum_i n_{i\uparrow} n_{i\downarrow}}_{\text{local}} \xrightarrow[Z \text{ or } d \rightarrow \infty]{\text{Simplifications?}} ?$$

Comprehensive MFT valid for all input parameters?

Scaling ?



$Z \text{ or } d \rightarrow \infty$



Local (single-site) mean-field theory



# Hubbard model

Metzner, DV (1989)

$$\langle H_{kin} \rangle_0 = -t \sum_{\mathbf{i}, \sigma} \sum_{\substack{\mathbf{j} (\text{NN } \mathbf{i}) \\ Z}} \langle c_{\mathbf{i}\sigma}^\dagger c_{\mathbf{j}\sigma} \rangle_0$$

Amplitude for  
hopping  $\mathbf{j} \rightarrow \text{NN } \mathbf{i}$

$$|\text{Amplitude for hopping } \mathbf{j} \rightarrow \text{NN } \mathbf{i}|^2 = \text{Probability for hopping } \mathbf{j} \rightarrow \text{NN } \mathbf{i} = \frac{1}{Z}$$

# Hubbard model

Metzner, DV (1989)

$$\langle H_{kin} \rangle_0 = \underbrace{-t}_{\propto \frac{1}{\sqrt{Z}}} \sum_{i,\sigma} \underbrace{\sum_{j \in \text{NN}(i)}}_Z \underbrace{\langle c_{i\sigma}^\dagger c_{j\sigma} \rangle_0}_{\propto \frac{1}{\sqrt{Z}}}$$

Quantum rescaling  $t = \frac{t^*}{\sqrt{Z}}$

Amplitude for hopping  $j \rightarrow \text{NN } i$

$$|\text{Amplitude for hopping } j \rightarrow \text{NN } i|^2 = \text{Probability for hopping } j \rightarrow \text{NN } i = \frac{1}{Z}$$

# Hubbard model

Metzner, DV (1989)

$$\langle H_{kin} \rangle_0 = -t \sum_{i,\sigma} \sum_{\substack{j(NN\ i) \\ Z}} \underbrace{\langle c_{i\sigma}^\dagger c_{j\sigma} \rangle_0}_{\propto \frac{1}{\sqrt{Z}}}$$

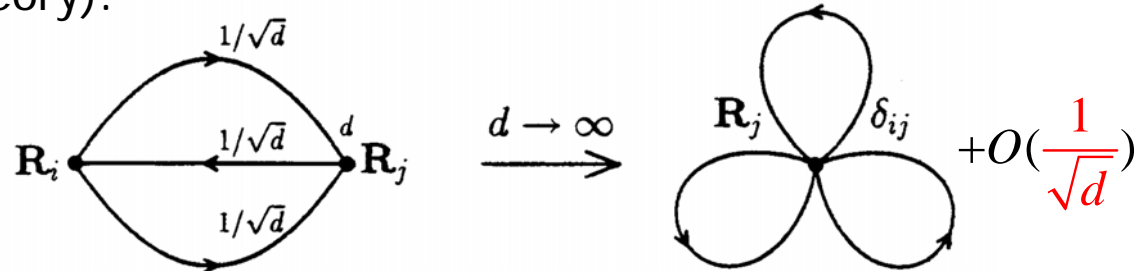
$Z \text{ or } d \rightarrow \infty$

Quantum rescaling  $t = \frac{t^*}{\sqrt{Z}}$

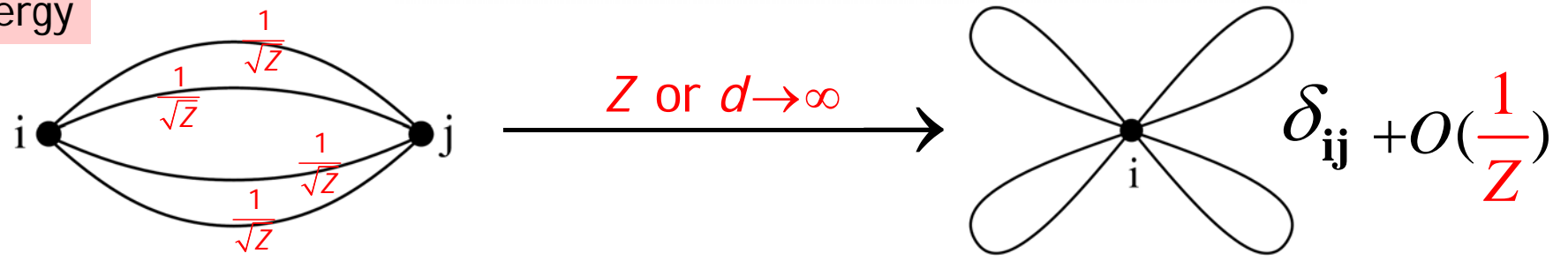
$Z \text{ or } d \rightarrow \infty$  → Collapse of all connected, irreducible diagrams in position space ("locality of perturbation theory")  
 ⇒ great simplifications

Examples (2. order pert. theory):

Self-energy



Energy



# Hubbard model

Metzner, DV (1989)

$$\langle H_{kin} \rangle_0 = \underbrace{-t}_{\propto \frac{1}{\sqrt{Z}}} \sum_{i,\sigma} \sum_{\substack{j(NN\ i) \\ Z}} \underbrace{\langle c_{i\sigma}^\dagger c_{j\sigma} \rangle_0}_{\propto \frac{1}{\sqrt{Z}}}$$

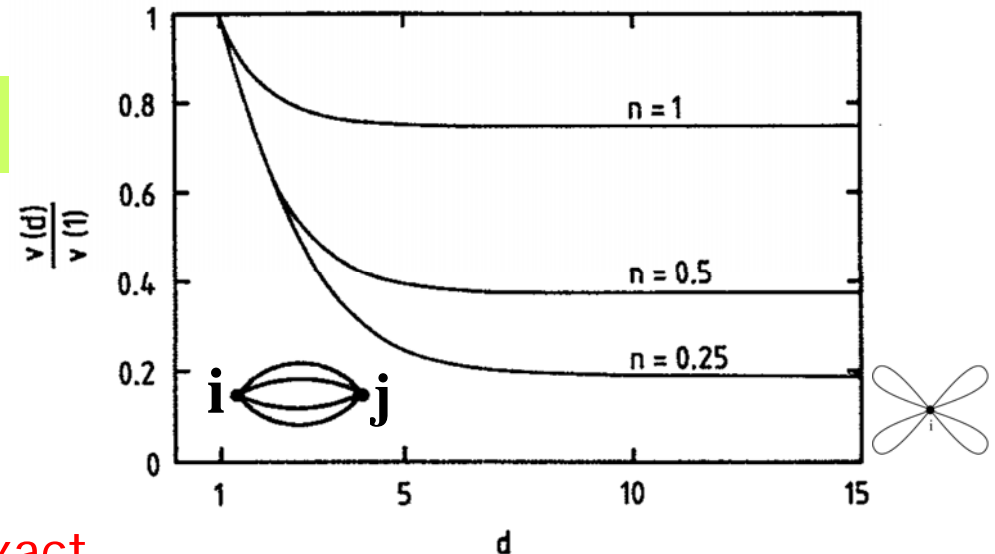
Quantum rescaling  $t = \frac{t^*}{\sqrt{Z}}$

$Z$  or  $d \rightarrow \infty$  → Collapse of all connected, irreducible diagrams in position space (“locality of perturbation theory”) ⇒ great simplifications

# Gutzwiller wave function

$$|\psi_G\rangle = e^{-\lambda \hat{D}} |\psi_0\rangle$$

$d \rightarrow \infty$ : Gutzwiller (semi-classical) approximation becomes exact



Metzner, DV (1988)

# Hubbard model

Metzner, DV (1989)

$$\langle H_{kin} \rangle_0 = -t \sum_{i,\sigma} \sum_{\substack{j(NN\ i) \\ Z}} \underbrace{\langle c_{i\sigma}^\dagger c_{j\sigma} \rangle_0}_{\propto \frac{1}{\sqrt{Z}}}$$

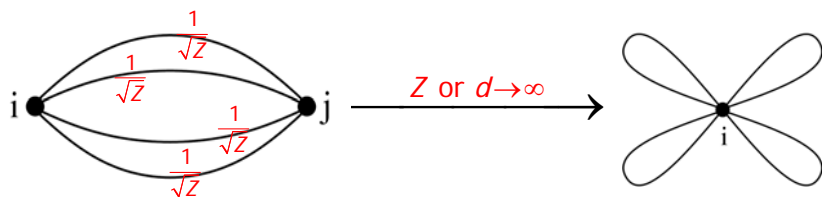
$Z \text{ or } d \rightarrow \infty$      $\propto \frac{1}{\sqrt{Z}}$

Quantum rescaling

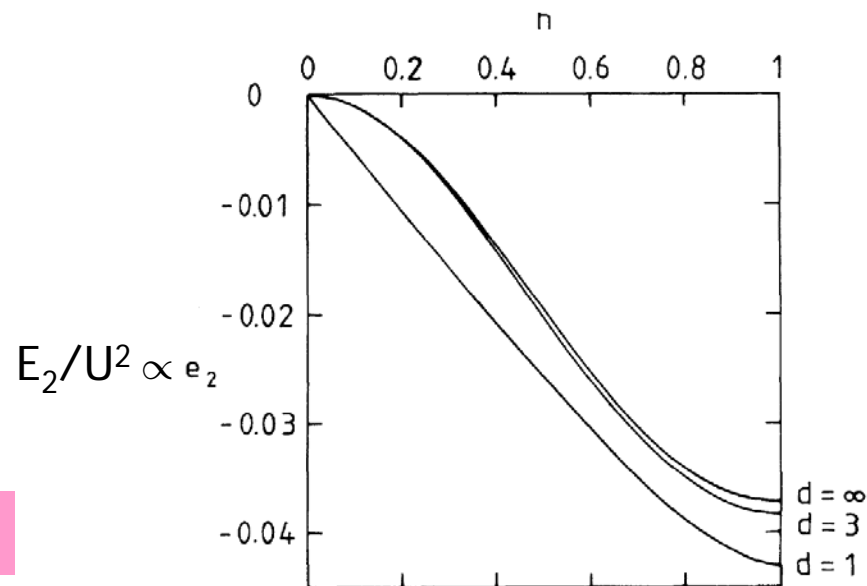
$$t = \frac{t^*}{\sqrt{Z}}$$

$Z \text{ or } d \rightarrow \infty$  → Collapse of all connected, irreducible diagrams in position space (“locality of perturbation theory”) ⇒ great simplifications

## E.g., correlation energy $E_2$



$d = \infty$ : excellent approximation for  $d = 3$



# Hubbard model

Metzner, DV (1989)

$$\langle H_{kin} \rangle_0 = \underbrace{-t}_{\infty \frac{1}{\sqrt{Z}}} \sum_{i,\sigma} \underbrace{\sum_{j(NN\ i)}_Z \langle c_{i\sigma}^\dagger c_{j\sigma} \rangle_0}_{\infty \frac{1}{\sqrt{Z}}}$$

Quantum  
rescaling

$$t = \frac{t^*}{\sqrt{Z}}$$

$Z$  or  $d \rightarrow \infty$

→ Collapse of all connected, irreducible diagrams in position space ("locality of perturbation theory")  
⇒ great simplifications

$$\Sigma_{ij}(\omega) \xrightarrow{d \rightarrow \infty} \Sigma_{ii}(\omega) \delta_{ij} \xrightarrow{FT} \Sigma_{\cancel{ij}}(\omega)$$

Purely local self-energy: MFT!

Müller-Hartmann (1989)

Consequences of the  $k$ -independence of the self-energy  
→ blackboard

## Consequences of the $k$ -independence of the self-energy

Propagator

$$G_{\vec{k}}(\omega) = \frac{1}{\omega - \epsilon_{\vec{k}} + E_F - \Sigma(\omega)}$$

Müller-Hartmann (1989)

Fermi surface is defined by  $\omega = 0$

$$\epsilon_{\vec{k}} + \Sigma_{\vec{k}}(0) = E_F$$

Luttinger, Ward (1960):

Volume within Fermi surface is not changed by interactions  $\rightarrow$

$$n = \sum_{\vec{k}\sigma} \theta[E_F - \epsilon_{\vec{k}} - \Sigma_{\vec{k}}(0)]$$

Effective mass

$$\frac{m^*}{m} = 1 - \left. \frac{d\Sigma}{d\omega} \right|_{\omega=0} = 1 + \frac{1}{\pi} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} d\omega \frac{\text{Im}\Sigma(\omega + i0^-)}{\omega^2} \geq 1$$

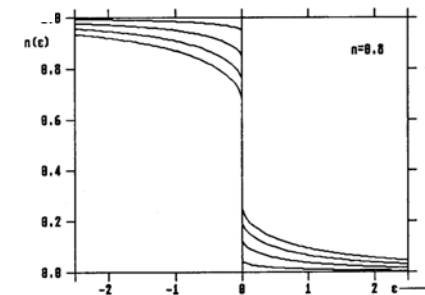
Momentum distribution

$$n_{\vec{k}} = \frac{1}{\pi} \int_{-\infty}^0 d\omega \text{Im}G_{\vec{k}}(\omega)$$

Discontinuity at Fermi surface

$$n_{k_F^-} - n_{k_F^+} = (m^*/m)^{-1} \quad (\text{Z-factor})$$

DOS: Fermi surface pinning





# Hubbard model

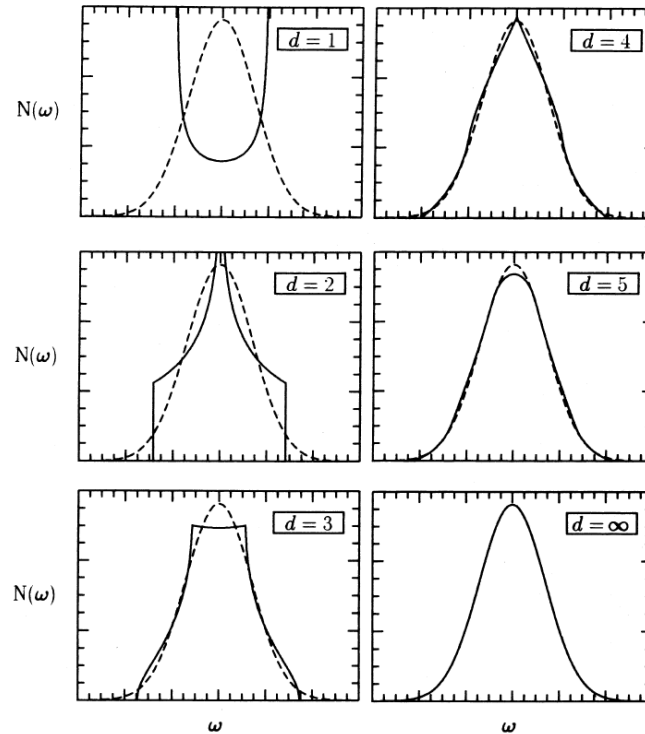
Metzner, DV (1989)

$$\langle H_{kin} \rangle_0 = -t \sum_{i,\sigma} \sum_{\substack{j(NN \text{ i}) \\ Z}} \underbrace{\langle c_{i\sigma}^\dagger c_{j\sigma} \rangle_0}_{\propto \frac{1}{\sqrt{Z}}}$$

$Z \text{ or } d \rightarrow \infty$

Quantum rescaling  $t = \frac{t^*}{\sqrt{Z}}$

Density of states for NN hopping on a hypercubic lattics



→ Training session

Gaussian (normal distribution)

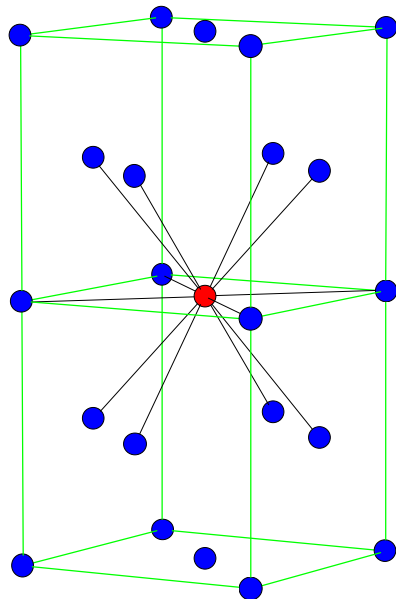
# $d \rightarrow \infty$ mean-field theory: Hubbard model

$$\langle H_{\text{kin}} \rangle = - \underbrace{t}_{\frac{1}{\sqrt{Z}}} \sum_{i\sigma} \underbrace{\sum_{j(\text{NN } i)}_{Z} \underbrace{\langle c_{i\sigma}^\dagger c_{j\sigma} \rangle}_{\frac{1}{\sqrt{Z}}}$$

Metzner, DV (1989)

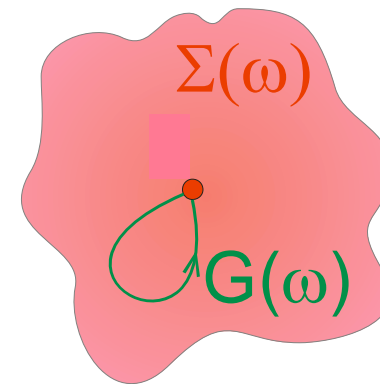
Quantum  
rescaling

$$t = \frac{t^*}{\sqrt{Z}}$$



$Z=12$

$Z$  or  $d \rightarrow \infty$   $\longrightarrow$



Dynamical (single-site) mean-field theory

Müller-Hartmann (1989); Janis (1991)

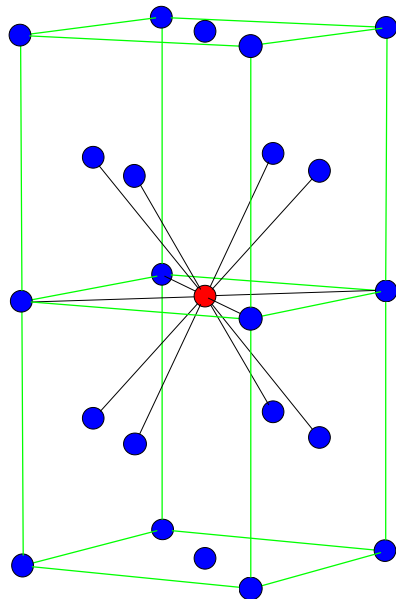
# $d \rightarrow \infty$ mean-field theory: Hubbard model

$$\langle H_{\text{kin}} \rangle = - \underbrace{t}_{\frac{1}{\sqrt{Z}}} \sum_{i\sigma} \underbrace{\sum_{j(\text{NN } i)}_{Z} \underbrace{\langle c_{i\sigma}^\dagger c_{j\sigma} \rangle}_{\frac{1}{\sqrt{Z}}}$$

Metzner, DV (1989)

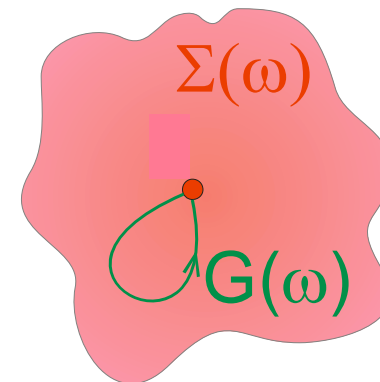
Quantum  
rescaling

$$t = \frac{t^*}{\sqrt{Z}}$$



$Z=12$

$Z$  or  $d \rightarrow \infty$   $\longrightarrow$

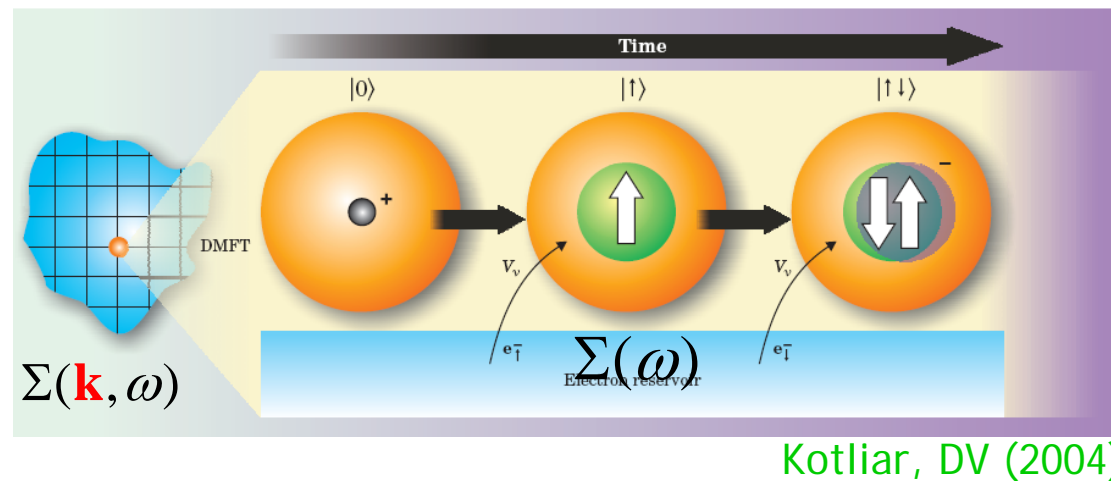


Single-impurity Anderson model  
+ self-consistency

Georges and Kotliar (1992), Jarrell (1992)

# Dynamical mean-field theory of correlated electrons

Proper **time** resolved treatment of **local** electronic interactions:



DMFT: local theory with full many-body dynamics

→ Insights into

- Correlation phenomena at intermediate couplings
- Mott-Hubbard metal-insulator transition